

Tri-County Beekeepers Association  
October 3, 2017

Vern Heise began the meeting with introduction of guests.

Yellow Jacket Traps Vern demonstrated the pop bottle trap for yellow jackets near hives.

Bears A question was asked about bear problems. Discussion followed about different ideas, including electric fences, and kennel fencing. The DNR website has suggestions for bear fencing.

Budget The Executive Committee presents the budget to the membership in December and then it is voted on in January. Those planned expenditures then do not have to be voted on during the year. The executive committee needs budget requests from the following committees: Education, Library, Demonstration Hive, Purchasing, Fair, Swarm and Website.

Swarm Committee It was reported that there were 20 calls for swarms, but only two were honey bees. The rest of the “swarms” were wasps and ground bees.

President and Vice President Nominations These will be voted on at the November meeting. The current president and vice president stay on the executive board for one year. The president and vice president are two year terms, plus one year on the executive board. Vern and Jason detailed some of their duties. There is also a position for at-large executive board member. Wayne Rusch has agreed to continue in this position. Nominations were sought; Stephanie Johnson agreed to run for president and Bob Cross agreed to run for vice president. The nominations were closed; but can still be accepted after this meeting.

Marketing Your Honey Jason and Vern presented their ideas for packaging honey for sale and gifts. The labeling criteria includes name, address, phone number, weight and the words Pure Honey. There is no sales tax on honey sales.

Winterizing Your Bees Vern demonstrated a hive quilt method using burlap and straw, which he leaves on hive all year. Jason suggested other methods for winterizing, such as a bildrite fiberboard, pink styrofoam, tar paper covers and black cardboard covers.

Financial Report Mitch Theis gave a summary of the current finances: \$150 donation has been made to Holy Cross Lutheran church for use of building, the remaining honey straws were sold, mite-away strips were purchased for the demonstration hive, leaving a current balance of \$8,852.96. Wayne Rusch made a motion to approve the financial report, and the motion was seconded and approved.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved.

Submitted by Beth Krueger